

Calendar

Friday, May 14

3:30 p.m. DIRECTOR'S COFFEE BREAK

- 2nd Flr X-Over

4:00 p.m. Joint Experimental Theoretical Physics Seminar - 1 West

Speaker: P. Langacker, University of Pennsylvania

Title: From Zero to Z0: A Workshop on Precision Electroweak Physics –

Summary Talk

8:00 p.m. Fermilab International Film

Society - Auditorium

Tickets: Adults \$4

Title: Amelie

Saturday May 15

8:00 p.m. Fermilab Arts Series -

Auditorium

Sam Bush

Tickets: Adults \$25

Monday, May 17

2:30 p.m. Theoretical Astrophysics

Seminar - Curia II

Speaker: J. Feng, University of California, Irvine

Title: SuperWIMP Dark Matter

3:30 p.m. DIRECTOR'S COFFEE BREAK

- 2nd Flr X-Over

4:00 p.m. All Experimenters' Meeting - Curia II

Special Topics: Booster Radiation Levels and Fermilab/NICADD Photoinjector Lab

Wilson Hall Cafe

NuMI Achieves Vacuum Milestone



First piece of the decay pipe being lowered into the NuMI tunnel in 2002. (Click on image for larger version.)

On Sunday, May 2, after more than 40 hours of pumping, the NuMI decay pipe was taken to a full vacuum for the first time, reaching an absolute pressure of 1 torr (by comparison, atmospheric pressure is 760 torr).

While the level of vacuum is not extreme by particle physics standards, the 2,214 foot long, 78-inch diameter pipe is a key element in creating the neutrinos that will travel from Fermilab to the Soudan mine. Pions, produced in the collision of protons with the NuMI target, decay to muons and neutrinos as they travel its length. "This 73,500 cubic foot vacuum represents the largest vacuum volume on the Fermilab site," said Dave Pushka, NuMI project mechanical engineer and vacuum system manager.

The project, coordinated by Pushka and decay pipe system manager Cat James, was a concerted effort of lab staff and

Electrical Safety Manager Dwight Featherston

Dwight Featherston has worked as Experimental Area Floor Manager for the PPD Site Department for the last 22 years. His approach to safety, consistently applied in his years at the laboratory, has helped prevent any lost-time accidents for the contract electricians he oversees.



Dwight Featherston

"My safety philosophy is mostly common sense," said Featherston. "Once you understand your project and break it down, it's easy to recognize the hazards and what you're going to do to relieve them."

Featherston worked as an IBEW electrician for 26 years before coming to Fermilab in 1982. At Fermilab, he has managed electrical projects at PPD sites such as the fixed target area, CDF, DZero, and now MINOS. Featherston credits the T&M electricians, some of whom have been working at the laboratory for several years, with helping to assure a safe working environment.

"It's important to work with the electricians," explained Featherston. "Most of them are very safety-conscious, and if you don't utilize their talents, you're making a big mistake. One person can't see everything."

Friday, May 14

Cream of Wild Mushroom soup

Blackened fish filet sandwich \$4.75

Southern fried chicken \$3.75

Casserole florentine with Italian sausage
\$3.50

Eggplant parmesan panini \$4.75

Buffalo chicken pizza \$2.75

Honey glazed pit ham \$4.75

[Wilson Hall Cafe Menu](#)

[Chez Leon](#)

Weather



Showers 61°/39°

[Extended Forecast](#)

[Weather at Fermilab](#)

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subcontractors. It began in 1999 when physicists Jim Hylen and Wes Smart performed simulations to determine the pipe dimensions. In 2000, Edward Chi and Bob Wands of PPD's Mechanical Department completed engineering calculations and safety notes that were reviewed by Bill Soyars from AD. Subcontractor Chicago Bridge and Iron, fabricated the pipe in Texas, then delivered and installed it in 2002.

The pipe's delicate end caps were fabricated and installed by technician Otto Alvarez and welder Lenny Harbacek. Craig Rogers managed the installation of the vacuum piping. John Voirin, Tom Rathbun, John Cornele, and Dwight Featherston installed the pumps and equipment that were critical to the successful evacuation.

In the News

From *The Science Coalition*, May 10, 2004

TSC Ads Seek to Influence Policy Makers
Promoting research in basic science, six advertisements will appear in The Washington Post in May and early June. Through the combined efforts of Universities Research Association, Inc., Research! America and The Science Coalition, the ads seek to educate policy makers on the importance of funding basic science, even when government resources are scarce.

[View Ads](#)

Announcements

Fermi Linux Logo Contest

Dust off your artistic talents and help Fermi Linux as it looks for its new logo. It's a great time to let your creative linux idea's come out. Show us what you can draw, and it's possible that your art can be seen not only around the world, but also on thousands of desktops. Rules, regulations, and other details can be found online.

[more information](#)

PDF Version of Fermilab Today Now Available

A PDF version for printing *Fermilab Today* is now available. Links to the pdf versions are located on the *Fermilab Today* [archive](#) webpage.

New Classified Ads Posted on Fermilab Today

New [classified ads](#) have been posted on *Fermilab Today*. A permanent link to the classifieds is located in the bottom left corner of *Fermilab Today*.

Free English Classes

NALWO-sponsored free English language classes for beginning and advanced levels are Fridays at the Users Center from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.